

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Guy Dragoo <gdrag@proedge.com>
Subject: "BA" Code Ode
Message-ID: <01BB1AF6.314B0E20@ft212.computek.net>

Sorry for the bandwidth BAers. I guess I am inviting another wrist =
slapping <g>... but I just couldn't resist letting this real nice work =
loose on you all. I saw it as posted on CompuServe by Nancy WZ8C as =
given to her by K4FW, it was distributed by Ten Tec and written by Troy =
Weidenheimer W0ROF. I can't think of anything else that espouses the =
real qualities of BA's more than the earliest form of radio =
communication (CW). Sorry Jack, I'll try to not let it happen again...

CODE ODE=20

It's more than dots and dashes,=20
It's a place.

A sanctuary for those who've learned
To love the mysterious magic of
Thoughts arriving in mile-long strings
On roads of ether or wire.

Even more, it's peace,
A shield from the disordered sounds
Of traffic, angry people
And industrial clutter clatter,
Within its warm mantle
We find soothing respite.

And the patter of bright ideas it is,
The sharp focusing of others' thoughts
>From miles beyond our vision's range,
As in a dream we sit so still,
It floats in our ears and stirs our minds
With concern, remembrance, speculation
And mirth.

And code is music,
>From sounders and speakers it dances
In the shack to each sender's inner clock,
And comes butter-smooth, deliciously swinging,
Or choppy staccato from a "fist" praising definition,
Or perfectly metered, flowing exquisitely
>From the gentle hand of an artist.

A place,
And peace,
Intelligence and=20
Music.
Code is more than dots and dashes.

by Troy =

Weidenheimer W0ROF

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu
Subject: 'Hot' coax
Message-ID: <SA39+2i5Kla@hrlban10.alhra.af.mil>

Ross KB9JJR wrote: ... One day somebody keyed up the multi-kw transmitter while some local guy was sawing off a piece of coax.

=====

Reminds me of when I used to live in Minnesota, and an obnoxious 'neighbor' had a CB rig with a linear on it. I worked for an electrician at the time (remember my 'electrically singing cows' story?) and his transmissions wiped out comm with our trucks (and lots of other local companies' also) for miles around. Since the FCC didn't seem to be acting on it, someone local decided to do something, and climbed the fence and sneaked up to the base of his tower in his equipment yard one night. A large thumbtack was driven through the coax, shorting the shield to the center lead, then the head was nipped off and it was covered with black tape. This procedure had the desired effect.

73, John Martin
jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Kevin Pease <hamradio@mm1001.theporch.com>
Subject: Re: 390A BFO adjust?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960326184436.207A-1000000@mm1001.theporch.com>

On Mon, 25 Mar 1996, Brien Pepperdine wrote:

> (I observed on the 'spare' incomplete IF chassis I got at a fleamarket
> that there appears to me to be more than the nominal 340 degree rotation
> the knob allows - bfo seems to be able to travel in and out for about a
> 420 degree rotation or so... or am I wrong, or the spare a bit broken?)
>

Those BFO's are actually PT0's. I have some that actually turn 2 full revolutions. Maybe the bad one just needs the stop reset.

Kevin Pease
WB0JZG Mount Juliet, TN.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Avery Comarow <71333.1603@compuserve.com>
Subject: 6AU5 for Tek scope
Message-ID: <960326033441_71333.1603_DHB56-1@CompuServe.COM>

Anybody got a couple of 6AU5's? The one in my Tek 547 HV supply is leaky. Happy to pay, of course.

Email here or phone 202-955-2609, please. Thanks!

Avery W40GK

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>
Subject: Re: A PRC-6
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9603261153.A27542-01000000@inet.uni-c.dk>

> Just received a PRC-6 which I purchased recently. Its an interesting
> unit. It has a US nameplate on it, but controls, some instructional
> plates, and the interior instruction plate are in German. The tubes are
> also German (with 56xx numbers).
>
> The set is in really good shape - the interior is like new, with the
> exterior showing some storage/handling wear.
>
> Its an interesting addition to my PRC-6 collection. Any other
> German-American sets like this out there?
>
> 73
>
> Joseph W Pinner
> KC5IJD

YES. I have a couple PRC-10 s made by Siemens. Also in perfect shape with batteryboxes.

If interested email me.

73 Rag oz8ro
danmec@inet.uni-c.dk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: kj7f@micron.net (Terry Dobler)
Subject: Re: Aligning any radio
Message-ID: <m0u1QbU-000QnFC@mis01.micron.net>

>
Is there anything known to Man that you can spray

>inside the coil forms to help ease the turning, and also help get them stuck
>to the wall of the form and not move. Mine are all loose and jittery for want
>of a better word.

snip

>Your Friend

>Al

>fritzsche@msn.com

>

Try taking the core out and placing a small length of rubber band in
with the core. It should still turn but stay put when you are done
adjusting.

Terry KJ7F

kj7f@micron.net - <http://netnow.micron.net/~kj7f/>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996

From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com

Subject: Re: Aligning any radio

Message-ID: <9603261927.AA00978@bock.ih.att.com>

Sorry to hear about poor tracking on your HQ-170. I agree, Hammars have
a better reputation than that.

This may be related: My 180C has a gen coverage dial, plus a Ham bandspread
dial with its own tuning gangs wired in parallel (subject to bandswitching).

My main GC dial calibrates and tracks like a Hammarlund (!), but
the BS dial has a little problem: If I set the main dial with the BS dial
set at its top 100 KC mark (say, 4 MC on 75/80m), all the rest of the
points (3.9 on down) will read 10 or 20 KC high.

But if I set her up at 3.9, then the entire band is pretty darn close,
except of course the last couple ticks at the top (3980, 3990, 4000)
read low. The error is just near the top. *Same* effect on all Ham bands.
So my BS tuning capacitor probably has a quirky oscillator section.

Now your HQ-170 has only bandspread dials, that probably look like mine,
although spread over two dials. Just maybe Hammarlund saved some bucks by
using the same tuning capacitor in your set as for my BS cap (it's a fine unit,
with 3 sections per band, military quality, so why not?).

Bottom line: Try aligning your oscillator at the next 100 KC point down from
the top of each band. And put up with the error at the very top.
See if the rest of your markings fall into line.

Hammarlund manuals already tell you to align the RF circuits away from

the extreme ends of ranges, but they do say to align the osc at the very ends.
But do try my scheme and see if it helps.

BTW, could you answer a dumb question: What does the other big knob do
on a 170? Moore's shows the 180 and 170 with the exact same knob layouts
and functions, except your "other" tuning knob has some graduations around it.

73, mike k aa9rg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: arc5@ix.netcom.com (David Stinson)
Subject: Re: Aligning: loose coil cores
Message-ID: <199603260617.WAA10188@dfw-ix12.ix.netcom.com>

>...Is there anything... you can spray inside the coil
>forms to help ease the turning, and also help...
>them (stick) to the wall of the form and not move.
>Mine are all loose and jittery...
I once fixed this by dripping a small drop of hot wax in
with the slug and turning it back and forth until
the wax set. The wax formed new threads that held
the core securely yet allowed movement. Be careful;
too much wax and you'll have a plugged form and
need a heat gun to fix it. You might give that a try.

73 DE Dave Stinson AB5S
arc5@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Karan Lee Carruth <klccarru@tenet.edu>
Subject: Alinement
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960326141104.442A-100000@gaston.tenet.edu>

I have noticed that a lot of older (starting about mid WW-II) and some
newer military manuals use the word "alinement" for alignment. Is this
just some politically correct terminology that I have missed?

Lenox, WA50VG

klccarru@tenet.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996

From: "Lahlum Ross" <ross_lahlum@msmail.wes.mot.com>
Subject: RE: Alinement
Message-ID: <9603262033.AA21925@kay.wes.mot.com>

I don't know if you could call that politically correct - I suspect it's just a symptom of the "dumbing down" of our society.

Regretfully,
Ross KB9JJR

>I have noticed that a lot of older (starting about mid WW-II) and some
>newer military manuals use the word "alinement" for alignment. Is this
>just some politically correct terminology that I have missed?

>Lenox, WA50VG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Alinement
Message-ID: <9603262326.AA011111@bock.ih.att.com>

Yes, I too remember the Army manuals we had in ROTC in early
'60s spoke of "aline the ranks on the parade field" etc.
I figure it's just a cleaning up of bastardized English spelling,
along the lines of "nite" and "thru", and long overdue.

As for Bristo and Bristow, I was in high school before I discovered
the final 'r' in "mirrow" -- my mom was from Baltimore where it's
pronounced "mir - row" (as in row your boat).

Interesting that the the R390 may have been another "rush order"
along with the HRO and the U-2. 73, mike k aa9rg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Allen Tucholski <allent@en.com>
Subject: AN/URM -32 Frequency Meter Forsale 125 KHz -1000 Mhz
Message-ID: <199603270236.VAA22930@en.com>

Hello All!

I have a nice AN/URM -32 Frequency Meter / Signal Generator
forsale.

Built by Divco - Wayne Electronics.

This is a military unit built into its own aluminum enclosure with side
handles and a lock on front cover.

Physical size is about 14inches square cube. Weight is 37 lbs. Includes

original 115 VAC supply
and ac power cord.

Here is a breakdown of the units features.

125 KHz -1000 Mhz heterodyne type 0.01% accuracy.
Uses precision Xtal oscillators. (has a preasurized tuning cavity)
Front panel : BNC ant/xf-out, precision veneer dial, DC voltmeter, Function
switch, (off-oper-chk-mod) power neon lamp, headphone jacks, corrector
control,
3 ranges, [125 KC - 2.5 MC], [2.5 mc - 65 mc] [65mc -1000 mc]
With cal book and schematic.

Built to withstand heavy field use. Very nice condition.

All original, no modifications.

\$45 plus shipping from zip code 44125.

(shipping weight about 45 lbs) includes box and packaging.

Allen

216-883-3879 or e-mail

NASA Lewis Research Center
Cleveland, Ohio

e-mail
allent@en.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: pbock@melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)
Subject: BA Net
Message-ID: <9603262035.AA02268@syseng1.se.melpar.esys.com>

OK, brass pounders, I got my Digi-Key BA/Color Burst crystal
and got the ol' Adventurer on last nite with Paul, K9NO (running
one of them "after-market" Adventurer clones called a Knight
T-50). Signals were FB (abt 5-6-9 wid littl QRN), but where wuz
everybody else?

Paul, K4MSG

P.S. Sandy (W5TVW), I heard you about 0400 or 0430, but I was

fixin' to go hit the sack; couldn't keep my peepers open, I'd been wiring up the connector cable between the Arcus-Fivus and the power supply. Might get that hummer on this week, too. I'm using the J-38 straight brass and the Lionel J-36 entymological specimen, along with one of them new-fangled Drake R-4A ether-strainers.....

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Charles Mann <mannnc@idirect.com>
Subject: BA Sighting Correction
Message-ID: <199603262302.SAA27789@lucid.idirect.com>

Re: my Friday posting.

Sorry if I misled anyone I saw an Marconi ATLANTA not Atlantic. Buy it and get in the Olympic spirit!!

Charles
mannnc@idirect.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: w0ogh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)
Subject: Boneyard trip again "sigh"
Message-ID: <199603260405.UAA04728@dfw-ix10.ix.netcom.com>

Well with my bother here and being an old AF type like me we just had to go to the boneyard again. Honestly, I gotta quit doing this. I'm going broke and my garage is beginning to tilt. Think the foundation is cracking.

Anyway laying around was a couple of ART-13 rack mounts and dynamotors with the connectors attached. When I got in the airplane, I was shocked. There were more connectors for the ART-13, a couple of ARC-2 connectors and a BC-453 with rack/shock mount, spline drive. C-744 control head, ARC-2 control head, telegraph key, various insulators (standoffs) and misc other junk that I just had to have. Well, to say the least it came home with me. Now I have more junque to dispose of. Oh yes, hanging over the top of the walkway was an ART-13 LF ant coupler model CU-32. Didn't see any reason to leave it so I took it down as well. Almost forgot the ARC-1 rack with connectors. There was this other piece of gear there that I didn't want but in looking at it, on the backwas a pair of DY-2 dynamotors. For those who don't know, they work as well and are a direct replacement for the command set receiver dynamotors. Well no use leaving them set in the rain and sun,

so I brought them along home to. Glad I had my pickup truck instead of the car. Did I do good or bad?

Now to find a buyer.. I shoulda asked about the props that were stacked up. I could have put it on the other side of the garage to balance things out.

I did get to check out another flying machine and about had heart failure. More about that after the next retrieval trip.

Larry W00GH@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Brought Up new HQ-180C
Message-ID: <9603261715.AA00863@bock.ih.att.com>

Tnx a lot, Grant. I'll yank those shields tonite.

As for the dust covers over the caps, I wish whoever wrote that update could see my dusty, slightly pitted chassis and the beautiful shiny tuning gangs and snow-white ceramic stator mounts under the covers. Over the long term these covers really paid off. Maybe if too much conductive crud built up on a cover, it could act as a low-Q electrostatic shield and degrade performance -- but then, that same crud would have landed on the condenser plates and the ceramic spacers instead, if you wanna talk about degraded performance.

The true Hammarlund tradition would've been to make those covers of Al or Cu and retune the trimmers to compensate, but if you want Super Pro quality, take a friend and go get one :-)

Besides, the covers make a comfy place to rest your hand while tweaking alignments -- jsut be sure to lift your hand before finishing the adjustment, since hand capacitance didn't go out with the regen bloopers.

BTW, my manual was zeroxed out of a public library and is missing the 1st two pages, so I have no publication no. for it. However, the page page warranty sheet does show "A Giannini Scientific Co". (Oops, I meant last page). BUT -- the chassis photo shows every tube shielded but the rectifier, VR, and output -- just like my radio.

I guess Hammarlund didn't want to bother re-shooting the photo, or rather Giannini didn't. Moore's 3rd edition gives the sequence of Hammarlund's various owners, but maybe not the exact years.

At least Collins is still on her first marriage :-)

BTW I am making good but slow progress on polishing out the "frostiness" from my clock face. 'Twas a good way to kill 3.5 hrs while watching the Oscars. 73, mike k aa9rg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Andy Howard WA4KCY <102452.362@compuserve.com>
Subject: Crying Towel Almost Dry
Message-ID: <960327025645_102452.362_DHT82-1@CompuServe.COM>

Hi Gang,

The controversy over the broadcast transmitter is resolved. As you may recall I had purchased a 1 KW RCA broadcast transmitter from a local radio station. I had taken the transformers and four 4-400A's home and was waiting for suitable weather and some friends to help me get the transmitter. When I went to get it the transmitter was stripped of all goodies on the inside.

After about a week of bickering back and forth I finally got the engineer to reinstall the missing parts. He just hung them in there and wired some of them but not correctly. What I decided to do was let a friend of mine have the transmitter. I kept the plate, modulation, reactor and choke along with the tubes. My friend reimbursed my original outlay and has the transmitter at his house as of this afternoon.

The moral of the story I suppose is this: if you buy anything like that make sure that you wrap it up and put a sign on it that it is sold and for everyone to leave it alone. the sad part is that it was only about 5 miles from my home. I am now looking for another broadcast transmitter that I can convert to 160 meters. If it had not been stripped down it would have been a snap to get on 160. It was working when taken out of service. If anyone happens to see one in a trade publication or know of something in the 250 to 1000 watt category preferably using 4-400's but another tube would not exclude it from consideration. Need one in the southeastern part of the U.S.

Regards to all,

Andy, WA4KCY
AMI #9
Crying towel slowing drying.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: tomrice@netcom.com (Tom R. Rice)

Subject: Exploding fuse holder, etc.

Message-ID: <199603262219.0AA09876@netcom9.netcom.com>

> From: billo@nti.net (Bill Wilson)

> Subject: Exploding fuse holder in Drake AC4

> Don't know why this happened, maybe a past power surge, maybe tinfoil
> instead of the fuse? Anyways the Drake is running fine now, replaced the

Your post reminded me of the happy days when I was at Ft. Monmouth Radio/Radar School in the early Fifties. We had several weeks wherein we were supposed to find and fix bugs in various pieces of military gear, including BC-610 xmtrs.

The classes were pretty slow and soon we were finding other ways to pass the time. One of the more fun ways was to substitute our "special" fuses in the rig's fuseholders.

These were made of matchheads stuffed into the fuse body and ignited by a piece of fine wire soldered in where the normal fusible link was before.

It drove the instructors nuts!

(No flames, please. We've all grown up a bit since then ;-)

73 de WB6BYH

--

"Start off every day with a smile and get it over with." --W.C.Fields

Tom R. Rice

tomrice@netcom.com

CIS: 71160,1122

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996

From: "Lahlum Ross" <ross_lahlum@msmail.wes.mot.com>

Subject: RE: Exploding fuse holder, etc.

Message-ID: <9603262239.AA22816@kay.wes.mot.com>

That's not so bad - a guy I know who was at a military base in Morocco related a story about problems they were having with the locals cutting lengths of coax from their antenna feeds to get the copper. One day somebody keyed up the multi-kw transmitter while some local guy was sawing off a piece of coax. What do you supposed happened then? :>0

Ross/KB9JJR

> One of
> the more fun ways was to substitute our "special"
> fuses in the rig's fuseholders.

> These were made of matchheads stuffed into the
> fuse body and ignited by a piece of fine wire
> soldered in where the normal fusible link was
> before.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: lstolz@tekelec.com (Lynn Stolz)
Subject: Fair & their choice of colors
Message-ID: <9603262014.AA06329@london.oh.tekelec.com>

Jim, W8ZR, wrote:

> ...if you buy a piece of equipment from FRS (e.g., an R-390A),
> be sure and avoid getting anything whose cabinet has been "refurbished" or
> "restored" by them....

I'm a proud owner of a "plum" colored URM-25F Signal Generator purchased from Fair a few years ago. The upside is that it is easy to spot amongst the other battleship grey test equipment.

Your smileage may vary...

Lynn, N8AJ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: Fair Prices
Message-ID: <332703@w5ddl.aara.org>

Fair's prices are a little bit higher than the average BAer might find at a local garage sale, but they are maintaining a HUGE inventory for the benefit of everyone in the hobby who might some day need that CB/AM/FM radio from a Buick or 8' dish antenna.

Their prices in real terms do not inflate, and even go down in then-current terms on some commodity items.

I like having them around. I'm sure Phil would likely

wish the inventory value was in the stock market at times.

I hope there are a few more kids in the family.

73 de tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Gable, Edward M" <emg@rfpo2.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: Re: Fair Radio catalog
Message-ID: <3157DBC5@smtpgate.rfc.comm.harris.com>

I got mine in the mail last night.
Ed K2MP @ Rochester
<emg@rfc.comm.harris.com>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Scgilstrap@aol.com
Subject: For those that don't roll their own - Part 2
Message-ID: <960326214850_178852410@emout10.mail.aol.com>

In view of the fact that I was inundated with requests for what it cost me for a Rick Mish R390A overhaul I have decided to post the information to the list. This is the most expeditious (and easiest) way to disseminate this information. Thanks to all who responded and it was nice to hear from those of you that I have corresponded with in the past.

- First the most requested information - the cost. Here it is right off the invoice:

| | | | |
|---|--|-------|------------------------|
| 7 | 12AU7/5814 @ \$6ea | 42.00 | |
| 1 | 6BA6/5749 | 6.00 | |
| 1 | 6AK5/5654 | 6.00 | |
| 1 | 6DC6 | 6.00 | |
| 1 | 6AK6 | 6.00 | |
| 1 | T202 Antenna Xfrm | 10.00 | |
| 1 | Band Crystal (9 mc) | 10.00 | (for 15 & 24 mc band) |
| 5 | Power Supply filter caps | 30.00 | |
| 1 | 3-wire line cord | 5.00 | (for shock prevention) |
| 1 | 1-lot of misc resistors, capacitors and misc hardware | N/C | |

Breakdown entire radio, wash and degrease geartrain, check tubes, clean controls, realign entire

radio, check all xtals for tolerance,
calibrate PT0, touch up front panel
and knobs. (Its not on the invoice
but Rick removed an extensive mod
that was not needed.)*

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Parts | 121.00 |
| Labor | 250.00 |
| UPS shipping/packing/insurance | 40.00 |

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Grand total | \$411.00 |
|-------------|----------|

In addition to the basic service I bought new top and bottom covers at \$50 for both and two type 'C' antenna connectors for \$10 each. The antenna connector goes on the unbalanced antenna input. I got one for me and one for my brother who got an R390A for Christmas last year.

Keep in mind that your price may vary. My R390A didn't play worth a hoot but it was in basically good mechanical and physical condition. Rick can give you a pretty good ballpark figure on what yours may cost. It turned out that mine needed more tubes than he estimated. Thanks to that diode mod I put in the power supply. Also, he returns all the parts he replaced. Yes, bad tubes too.

- Next question - Shipping.

Rick will tell you: Buy a double-wall cardboard box 22"x24"x14" and get about 40 paper grocery sacks. Wad the grocery sacks up for packing material. They don't compress in shipping like the foam peanuts. I was able to get foam pieces at work that we receive our high dollar avionics gear in. Just made for shipping a Boat Anchor. I lucked out there. So I was only out \$12 for the box.

Before shipping Rick told me to turn the rig over and remove the power supply. This saves about 20 pounds shipping weight. And all you're removing is the transformer and rectifier tubes, which he obviously doesn't need on his end. He'll ask you to send the rectifiers to check them if you like. My shipping weight came to 70lbs and with \$1000 insurance the UPS bill was about \$18 to ship from Tulsa, OK to Toledo, OH. He said he's only had two units damaged in shipping in all the years he's been doing this.

- Turn around time?

It will depend on how busy he is. My radio was back in under six weeks. I expected two months but Rick was able to get to

it sooner than he thought. The radio languished in the attic for a few years so a couple of months more seemed like nothing.

- Does he restore other radios besides R390s?

I honestly don't know. You'll need to give him a call about this.

- Whats the cost of his rebuilt R390As?

Rick said he's selling a rebuilt R390A for \$850. About half the price of an NRD-535. He told me that another customer of his has both and the R390A can pull a signal out of the mud better than the sand-box. Why? Those digital rigs produce noise slinging those 1's and 0's around.

- Address and phone number?

Rick Mish - Miltronix
36 E. Manhattan Blvd
Toledo, OH 43608
Phone/fax: 419-255-6220

>From my glowing report you may think I have an interest in his business but I am just so pleased with having a top notch receiver that I wanted to share this information with other boatanchor fans.

I fell in love with R390As back in 1967 when I was overseas at one of Uncle Sams listening posts. (Iraklion Air Station, Crete. Operated as SV0WCC using an SBE-33 into a multi-band dipole hung between the barracks.) Owning one was a dream of mine and now listening to this one really takes me back to those mid-shifts when our target stations were quiet and we could tune around to see what else was out there. There was a lot, but that's another story.

Give Rick a call. He truly loves what he does and that alone says a lot. He's not getting rich repairing these radios but in my opinion he deserves to make a decent living doing what he enjoys. Should we all be so lucky.

73 de Stan - WB5LBH
scgilstrap@aol.com

*The mod Rick removed was evidently a depot mod. It allowed the use of external oscillators for extremely accurate frequency control and stability. Not having the external oscillators I

had no use for the extra hardware so Rick removed it and returned it to me.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Cormac Thompson <cormac@televar.com>
Subject: FREQ. STABILITY IN DRAKE
Message-ID: <3158BAC4.5C45@televar.com>

Hello BA Gang:

Has anyone experienced frequency instability in a Drake 2-C receiver? Voltages are within normal parameters, tubes all check okay and close visual inspection reveals nothing. Operation seems normal except for a very annoying jump of 100 - 200 cycles at random intervals. After a very long time, stability seems to improve.

It's just enough that you have to retune a SSB or CW signal.

All ideas welcome! Thanks & 73. Cormac

cormac@televar.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "TOM N LAIRD 5-5777" <TL39597@deere.com>
Subject: FS Heath Lab Scope
Message-ID: <DACDXX21.TL39597.551536080096086FDACDXX21@TCP30.DX.DEERE.COM>

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Date: 03/26/96 | |
| From: TOM N LAIRD 5-5777 | TL39597 - DACDXX21 |
| To: | INTERNET - DACDXE01 |
| Subject: FS Heath Lab Scope | |

Hi gang,

I have a Heathkit 5 mhz lab scope for sale. Its the tan colored scope and I have the original manual. This thing is like new and works perfect. All tube powered! Don't have the probe, but uses the standard banana plug style. \$35.....any takers? Prefer not to ship. Will trade for a Heath AA-13 mono amp or SP 610 monitor scope plus a little on my part.

Tom WC9M Moline, IL
tl39597@deere.com
309-765-5777 days

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
Subject: fs sx42

For sale hallicrafters sx42 case needs refinsh front panel good. It dose worke but dose not receve above 30 mags thats all i know. Also have hamerlund sp210lx workes good fornt panel has been refinshed dose not have stock knobs no power supply. \$75for sx42 \$100 for sp210 obo or trade for?
jerry ellope@shasta.com

----- Forwarded message ends here -----

Dick Dillman
WPE2VT N6VS ex-WA2BJK
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Collector of Heavy Metal:
Harleys, Willys and Radios Over 100lbs.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: "Dee C. Almquist" <soundnmind@rica.net>
Subject: FS-TRADE-FEW TUBES
Message-ID: <19960326203720611.AAA177@relay.rica.net>

Greetings all.....

I have a pair of used 6A3s that look new (Philco) & test good. Will trade for 2A3s or new 6146B GEs. Am buying GE 6146Bs, Mullard or Jan 807s, EL34s, & 6L6s. These must be new in boxes (new old stock).

I have a growing inventory of transmitter & audio tubes. If you need tubes, check with me. I might have it or can get it. Will take BA gear on trade for tubes. Am looking for anything E. F. Johnson, certain Drake stuff, & ???.

73
W4PNT & KA4EKK
Dee & Patty's marina, collector of boatanchors.....

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
Subject: FS: Hallicrafters HT44 and SX117

I'm selling recently these recently restored Hallicrafters twins. Both have been completely restored (including a comprehensive alignment) and are in excellent condition, both cosmetically and electrically. I also have the cables for transceive operation.
\$375 plus shipping.

Jim W8ZR (Columbus, OH)
(614) 548-7277

----- Forwarded message ends here -----

Dick Dillman
WPE2VT N6VS ex-WA2BJK
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Collector of Heavy Metal:
Harleys, Willys and Radios Over 100lbs.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Fwd: fs sx42
Message-ID: <38931.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

NOTE The message below is a re-post from rec.radio.swap. All replies must go to the person making the post, not me.

----- Forwarded message begins here -----

From: jerry lee <ellope@shasta.com >
Newsgroups: usenet.rec.radio.swap
From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Fwd: FS: Hallicrafters HT44 and SX117
Message-ID: <38925.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

NOTE The message below is a re-post from rec.radio.swap. All replies must go to the person making the post, not me.

----- Forwarded message begins here -----

From: James Garland
<garland@ohstpy.mps.ohio-state.edu>Newsgroups: usenet.rec.radio.swap
From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: d-hlinsky@nwu.edu (Don Hlinsky)
Subject: Good Tube Supplier???

Message-ID: <199603261826.AA116214790@casbah.acns.nwu.edu>

Hello All,

I accidentally ran across this ad on the web and thought I'd pass it on for those who have been searching for fresh bottles recently. I have no experience with this company and have no immediate need for tubes (current stock is OK for the moment) otherwise I'd call.

The guy lists quite a few of the popular tubes (and some not so popular!) and sockets plus he says call if you don't see the object of your desire.

If this company is not news; I apologize profusely!

73,
Don - N9IZU

The URL is:
<http://www.imsweb.net/cweb/outboard/tube.html>

It points to:

DC Electronics (I believe - might also be D&C - graphic is too cute - HI!)
3089 Deltona Boulevard
Spring Hill, Florida 34606

Phone: 352-688-2374 (ask for Ron)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu
Subject: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <SA39+wQ,Kla@hrlban10.alhra.af.mil>

Bill Sorsby wrote concerning an individual's ads in the April ARC:
Ya know, I just don't believe that this guy is adding value. I think he's just a premium priced reseller. But, maybe he's got what you really want.
<Drum roll please.....> HRO 600 - \$3150

=====

I also read those same ads with frustration and irritation. I think prices like these squeeze most practicing hobbysts and engineering types, who would honestly enjoy using the equipment but may not have lots of money, right out of the picture. Sometimes such advertisers justify their high price by citing the original cost, but it doesn't hold much water given (for example) what an R-390A cost the government. I imagine the overpriced gear, if it's sold at all, may end up largely unused, gracing a shelf in some collector's

walnut-panelled den. Unfortunately these listed prices may cause others to think "gee, if anyone will actually pay that kind of money, maybe I can get more for mine..." and the pricetag spiral begins. Best response I can think of: recognize that the volume of those ads indicates a resale operation (probably no actual value added) with the radios we find interesting treated as a commodity, recognize the prices as a deviation from the norm, being set only by profit interests, and resist the temptation to follow suit. IMHO, whether anyone patronizes the seller or not at these prices becomes a matter of conscience.

73, John Martin

jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996

From: "Grant Youngman" <nq5t@gte.net>

Subject: Re: Grossly inflated prices...

Message-ID: <199603261731.LAA22821@uro.theporch.com>

> Ya know, I just don't believe that this guy is adding value. I think he's
> just a premium priced reseller. But, maybe he's got what you really want.
> <Drum roll please.....> HRO 600 - \$3150
> =====
> I also read those same ads with frustration and irritation. I think prices like
> these squeeze most practicing hobbists and engineering types, who would
<snip>

I think the points about for-high-profit-reseller pricing are pretty much on the mark. Of course, not all of these folks price stuff at "gouge" levels -- but there are a small number of notable exceptions.

There is the other side of the coin, too. Some poor soul listed a DX-60, HG-10, and some sort of matching receiver (HR-10??) over on rec.radio.swap.nuclear-holocaust for \$180 or so. Enter the price police .. with a response that he had picked up "exactly" the same thing for \$20, so he figured that no more than \$50 was a "reasonable" price for the setup. Now maybe \$180 was too high .. I don't know. But unless the stuff was 90% ferrous oxide, \$20-50 might be just a wee low, too. As I recall from this particular price-cop's history, he also thought that \$20 was about the highest price anyone in their right mind would pay for an HQ-170A -- which kind of sets the location of his head.

There's bound to always be someone who has found a KW-1 for the cost to haul it away, but I don't suppose that makes the "going rate" equal to one days truck rental :-)

Grant/NQ5T

Grant Youngman / NQ5T
nq5t@gte.net

WANTED: Hammarlund SPC-10

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Bill Sorsby <bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com>
Subject: Re: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <199603261738.LAA22992@dlep1.itg.ti.com>

At 10:12 AM 3/26/96 -0600, John Martin wrote:
>... recognize that the volume of those ads indicates a resale operation
>(probably no actual value added) with the radios we find interesting treated
>as a commodity, recognize the prices as a deviation from the norm, being
>set only by profit interests, and resist the temptation to follow suit.
IMHO,
>whether anyone patronizes the seller or not at these prices becomes a
>matter of conscience.

I've wondered why he and some of the other obvious resellers don't just take out full page ads like legit businesses do. Say, for instance, offering satisfaction guaranteed if equipment is not working or condition not as stated. (But then, that might cut into his profits!) It seems to me that if the seller has a major operation going, as this individual obviously does, but is unwilling to operate in accordance with accepted business practices then it speaks poorly of his operation.

After all, there are a few legitimate businesses specializing in "junque" which to be operating profitably; Antique Electronic Supply and Fair Radio come to mind as good examples. AES even advertizes both the prices they pay for old tubes and the prices they resell them for.

Regards,
Bill Sorsby, N5BU

bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com
Views expressed herein are no one's fault but mine.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Sandy Blaize <70401.134@compuserve.com>
Subject: Re: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <960326193100_70401.134_IHD33-5@CompuServe.COM>

Jeese! Talk about opposite ends of the "price spectrum"!!! I'm afraid I agree with John Martin's views!

I bought a DX-60B, HG-10B, HR-10B from a guy in California that was \$115 shipped. They were in very nice almost pristine condition! I figure I got a great bargain, and I've been horse-trading quite a few years! I wouldn't turn them loose for ANY LESS than \$150 + shipping. (No, they are NOT for sale!)

I have heard a local say he thought \$400-\$500 was WAY too much for a good SB-220! (But he lives in 'lala land'!) Considering the lightly built new stuff MFJ-Ameritron sells for big bucks, a good SB-220 for \$500 is a fair price! I have a Henry 2K-2 console in excellent electrical and good cosmetic condition. I bought it for \$500 a few years ago from a person who got it at the estate sale of the ham who originally bought it. NO WAY I'd sell it for a penny less than I have in it, probably more. It's built like a tank inside. No flimsy bandswitches, no electrolytics (big oil filled caps!), no light-just-will-do-the-job transformers/chokes!

Now an HR0-600 for what!!! This guy has to be one of the "New Audio" crowd. The ones that get \$1000 for a push-pull 6CA7/EL34 amplifier! Best thing is to "educate" the "newbies" into the old haggling game, or we will all get priced out of the BA market. All this old stuff will "appreciate" due to the fact that: they ain't making it anymore, and the US Dollar is declining in value steadily. But not *THAT MUCH*!

73,

Sandy W5TVW

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: merrigan@ee.ualberta.ca
Subject: Re: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <199603262103.PAA11134@uro.theporch.com>

In <199603261738.LAA22992@dlep1.itg.ti.com>, on 03/26/96 at 11:39 AM,
Bill Sorsby <bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com> said:

>After all, there are a few legitimate businesses specializing in "junque"
>which to be operating profitably; Antique Electronic Supply and Fair
>Radio come to mind as good examples. AES even advertizes both the prices

>they pay for old tubes and the prices they resell them for

I wonder what kind of overall (the key is overall) margin an operation like Fair Radio has. I mean, let's say they bid on 3 truckloads of gear (because that is the way the government disposal system works) in order to get 10 or 20 pieces which they can sell. My feeling is that nobody at Fair Radio is making millions.....

Shaun

--

merrigan@nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca
Shaun P. Merrigan
Electrical Engineering Student
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Chris Sieg <c_sieg@conknet.com>
Subject: RE: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.960326185543.c_sieg@PIEXX.conknet.com>

I'm one of the bad guys. I buy radio equipment, because I love tinkering with it mostly, but sometimes to help support my family. Some of it I fix up, some I sell as is. I try to buy low and sell at a reasonable markup, usually about 20%. I sometimes am able to recoupe my shop repair rate with BA equipment usually not however. The worst deals that I have ever made were with ?non dealers? who mis-state the condition on the equipment that they sell me. These bad deals I have to eat. Most of the folks I deal with, over the internet, do state the condition of the equipment they offer fairly, and I have never been subjected to criminal activity by sellers. When I buy equipment at hamfests, it, puportedly, always works. We all know better, It never does! So what service do I offer for my 20% ?? First, I tie up a bunch of my money in inventory, that would be the money that most reasonable people would be investing or saving. Second, I

state the condition as fairly as I can and guarantee it. If you don't like what you buy from me, you can ship it back. Third, I maintain a store front. If you like you can come in brouse, buy or just shoot the bull. If you see something you like, I provide a bench, test equipment and tools so you can fully examine your possible purchase. Fourth, and most importantly to me, I tie up A LOT of time traveling to shows, acquiring parts and repairing the equipment that I hope I can ultimately sell (I'm not looking for sympathy, there is some perverted side to my psyche that actually enjoys this type of activity, I guess most of you can sympathize).

The fellow you folks are talking about in ARC appears to be an opportunist. I won't do business with him (couldn't afford to ;-)), but as we all know such individuals are lurking in all corners of our society. To lump all dealers, and I've had the pleasure to meet many fine ones, in with the few bad apples is very naive.

-Chris

Name: Chris Sieg WA3LDI
E-mail: c_sieg@mail.conknet.com (Chris Sieg)
From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: mirage!pamars@Simba.AGN.NET (P.A.Marshall)
Subject: Re: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <9603270108.AA06425@mirage>

merrigan@ee.ualberta.ca writes:

>
> My feeling is that noboday at Fair Radio is making millions.....
>
> Shaun

>
I can tell you have never had the plesure of visiting Fair Radio, because if you had you would *know* that nobody at Fair was making millions :-)

The place is a *dump* ... but what a lovely dump it is! If you visit allow your self lots of time, I have always been treated very kindly and enjoyed myself muchly on every visit.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Al Marshall | "Real Radios Glow in the Dark" | almarshall@acm.org |
| 1+219.665.5072 | Mirage Computers, Inc. | pamars@mirage.angola.in.us |

"The lyf so short, the craft so long to lerne." - Chaucer

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Bill Sorsby <bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com>
Subject: RE: Grossly inflated prices...
Message-ID: <199603270119.TAA07161@dlep1.itg.ti.com>

At 06:00 PM 3/26/96 -0600, Chris Sieg wrote:
> I'm one of the bad guys. I buy radio equipment, because I love tinkering
with it
>mostly, but sometimes to help support my family. Some of it I fix up, some
I sell as
>is. I try to buy low and sell at a reasonable markup, usually about 20%. I
sometimes am
>able to recoupe my shop repair rate with BA equipment usually not however.

Hi Chris,

Since I started this thread (originally titled Non-Value Added Resellers),
I'll respond briefly. I am not at all offended by someone operating a
business according to generally accepted practice. You offer a service
which some here have benefitted from and then been pleased enough to
recommend you to the group. The reports have been so glowing that I wish I
had an opportunity to visit your shop. If I were still travelling to Boston
frequently, as I was a couple of years ago, I'm sure that I'd already have
taken the opportunity to travel just a little further north.

I sincerely wish you well with your operation, Chris.

Regards,
Bill Sorsby, N5BU bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Chuck Penson <penon@sci.mus.mn.us>
Subject: Heath comments
Message-ID: <31586872.23A2@sci.mus.mn.us>

Gang,

I'm sorry if this is a repeat for some of you, but I don't think my posts have
been
getting posted reliably. I don't have much to say most of the time, but as many of
you know

I have a special affection for Heath. So I wanted to make sure this got through...

I've been staying out of this discussion, but I can't let this one pass without some comment...

Andy Howard WA4KCY wrote:

> Heathkit, if the truth were known, had to get out of the kit business not
> because of lack of interest but lack of enough people who could assemble their
> products.

The truth is known, and it really isn't that simple. There were, in fact, a variety of factors that pushed Heath out of the kit business. They include, but are not limited to:

- * The pace of technologic change vs the time required to design a product, write a manual,
 etc, etc
- * The economics of automated assembly
- * The pressure of competition
- * The changing nature of "leisure time" and interests
- * The concept of "instant gratification"
- * Zenith's corporate rape and plunder of Heath

And yes, the increasingly complex nature kits, the size and density of parts, and the close soldering required, began to challenge even the most experienced builders. But based on the research I have done, it is my opinion that the primary factor that forced Heath to give up on kits was economics. Heath went to great lengths to make their manuals as clear as possible--that was one of the primary reasons they ended up being the only serious player in the kit market. Sure, thousands of people screwed them up, but hundreds of thousands more put them together and had them work the first time. And statistically, that's probably about right.

=====

While I'm on a roll, let me also respond to some recent traffic about bad parts from

Heath. Heath quality control was about as good as any manufacturer in electronics business.

In fact they had to be better than average or they couldn't have survived very long. From their point of view it was essential that the builder had a good experience. But as a matter of statistics, one would expect to find a bad part here and there. Heath didn't buy surplus (at least not after 1955), they had huge contracts with all the big name suppliers.

I had a very different experience with Heath than did the fellow who had troubles with various Heath products (sorry, I forget who posted that). Over the years I must have assembled dozens of kits--the entire SB line among others. I can recall only two instances where I had some minor problems. So it may be "luck of the draw" or something else, but Heath was nothing if not quality conscious.

--

Chuck Penson

penson@sci.mus.mn.us
612.221.4510 voice
612.224.5092 fax
<http://comped.sci.mus.mn.us>

Standard Disclaimer: The opinions expressed are etc. etc. ...

"Nothing is too wonderful to be true" -- Michael Faraday

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: daniel wright <djw@unlinfo.unl.edu>
Subject: Re: Heath comments
Message-ID: <9603262255.AA05667@unlinfo.unl.edu>

Gosh! I'm still around, I guess.....haven't posted to the list for a loooong time!

Guess I'll have to change that...(-> Anyhoo.....Chuck sez:

>Over the years I must have assembled dozens of kits--the entire SB line among others. I >can recall only two instances where I had some minor problems.

And I can whole-heartedly agree. My very first radio was a Halli-Kit (S-119K) which BTW, I had no problems with....worked (as good as a three tuber can) just fine at first power-up. I was twelve years old when I built it. As time went on I must have assembled DOZENS of Heathkits, mostly receivers/transmitters/

accessories/and test gear and every single one of them worked just fine upon initial power up. They all required a little "tweeking" or setup or alignment, of course. I was VERY happy with Heathkits and was sad to see first, the prices skyrocket, and second the exit of Heath from the kit market. I still have quite a few pieces of the stuff. I also have, waiting in the "fix-up" pile, a few Heaths built by others.....ASIG..

73 de Dan -- WA0JRD ..
djw@unlinfo.unl.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Bill Sorsby <bill.sorsby@dlp1.itg.ti.com>
Subject: Heathkit Defective Part Problems & Such
Message-ID: <199603261608.KAA01115@dlp1.itg.ti.com>

I suppose most of us remember Heath fondly and tend to forget that their kits had their share of problems, ranging from defective parts to blatant design errors. I'm a Heath fan and spent thousands of dollars twenty some years ago building Heath equipment. It amazed me that anyone without much technical knowledge could build a complex piece of equipment, troubleshoot the inevitable problems (be they induced by assembly or defective parts), and end up with a satisfactorily working piece of equipment.

I still remember a few defective parts that came with the SB-102 I put together nearly 25 years ago:

- 100kHz calibrator crystal far off frequency
- HF oscillator crystal for 10 meters which wouldn't oscillate
- HF oscillator crystal for 10 meters which was about 5 kHz off frequency
- bad audio tube (6GW8?)
- Defective zener for LMO regulation.

The real clincher was a badly mangled cover for the HP-23B supply. Since I had ordered the SB-600 speaker and had intended on putting the power supply in the speaker enclosure this wasn't a big deal. I suspected at the time that Heath had shipped it this way inasmuch as everything had been shipped in the same box, there was no external damage and no other physical damage.

The SB-102 also had a mechanical design problem involving the SSB/CW filter switch. The mechanical linkage was so stiff that the knob would break in short order. I fixed mine (after breaking a knob) by modifying the linkage. An HW-101 I have now (which I didn't put together) still has a broken SSB/CW switch knob and a very stiff linkage.

Even simple kits sometimes had problems. I put together a pair of Heath/Altec-Lansing speakers once and was very disappointed in the sound until I decided that one of the 12" (or maybe 15") speakers in it must be

bad. There was no physical damage to the speaker and it worked but seemed to be a bit off. I took the speaker back to the Heath store in Houston, where they weren't anxious to replace it but did so at my insistence, and voila, my speakers finally sounded good. BTW, that's the only time I ever caught flak from Heath about replacing a defective component.

At the risk of discouraging people from buying kits that others built, I submit that many kits still have minor defective parts and design errors which were not corrected by the original builder or subsequent owners. During the 60's and 70's quality standards were not quite what they are today and very few complex products could be assembled without requiring some troubleshooting, rework and repair.

Regards,
Bill Sorsby, N5BU

bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com
Views expressed herein are no one's fault but mine.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Sandy Blaize <70401.134@compuserve.com>
Subject: Heathkit Defective Part Problems & Such
Message-ID: <960326193056_70401.134_IHD33-2@CompuServe.COM>

Out of all the Heath stuff I built, I never had ANY trouble if I thought I had a bad part. Drop a letter to Heath and they would ship it out. They tended to be a little "pickier" at the Heath Stores! This is when Zenith took them over anyway, I think. Zenith wasn't interested in their customers anyway. I noticed the "decline" that Chuck Penson talks about in his book. For me, it seemed to start during the Schlumberger ownership, really went to hell during the Zenith takeover.

They tore down the Heath Store here in New Orleans area not too long ago. It had been vacant for years. I can still remember the frantic effort to add new stuff (non-Heathkit) in the last-gasp effort to stay open. First Heathkit I built was the V-6 VTVM (\$19.50) in 1951. I still have it!

73,

Sandy W5TVW

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: stever@cybercomm.net (Stephan Rashkin)
Subject: Re: Heathkit Defective Part Problems & Such
Message-ID: <199603262112.QAA07681@raven.cybercomm.net>

Bill Sorsby, N5BU wrote:

>At the risk of discouraging people from buying kits that others built, I
>submit that many kits still have minor defective parts and design errors
>which were not corrected by the original builder or subsequent owners.
>During the 60's and 70's quality standards were not quite what they are
>today and very few complex products could be assembled without requiring
>some troubleshooting, rework and repair.

I look back and almost thank Heath for some of their defective
parts now..(of course didn't then)...I gained much trouble shooting
experience as a young fella..Out of nearly 40 kits I remember 11
having defective parts and 2 me goofed errors..

Steve, WA2NHZ

Looking for: 1. Johnson VF-122 VF0
2. BC696 / T-19 Command Xmtr

Steve Rashkin, WA2NHZ
Howell, New Jersey

E-mail: stever@raven.cybercom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Bill Sorsby <bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com>
Subject: Re: Heathkit Defective Part Problems & Such
Message-ID: <199603262147.PAA24651@dlep1.itg.ti.com>

At 02:30 PM 3/26/96 EST, Sandy Blaize wrote:

> Out of all the Heath stuff I built, I never had ANY trouble if I thought
>I had a bad part. Drop a letter to Heath and they would ship it out.

That's my experience as well Sandy. Heath only asked that the bad parts be

returned to them. One of the real draws of Heath equipment for me was knowing that I'd be able to keep the equipment repaired because Heath always stocked the parts. It just never really occurred to me that Heath would go out of business (effectively).

Regards,
Bill Sorsby, N5BU

bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com
Views expressed herein are no one's fault but mine.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Sandy Blaize <70401.134@compuserve.com>
Subject: Re: Heathkit Defective Part Problems & Such
Message-ID: <960327024259_70401.134_IHD121-1@CompuServe.COM>

Dave,

None of those names or calls sound familiar. The "last days" of Heath were kinda sad. It was even sadder seeing everything familiar rapidly disappear from the Heathkit store and the catalog as well. They must have revised the store here around every month the last year they were open. Everytime you went in, they were trying something new. The kits disappeared except for the small trashy stuff and trinket items. Burgler alarms, "educational" kits, lighting control systems, etc. No two times was anything the same or in the same place. They really didn't have *anything* useful to sell. Finally, I went there hoping to see some kind of positive change, and the door was locked, the place looked deserted. Eventually they blocked off the windows with poster paint or butcher paper (don't remember what) and I knew that was it. Finally the catalogs stopped coming. What I used to save to look at later, usually promptly went in the trash. They just didn't have ANYTHING of interest! The "educational kits" seemed to persist until the very end.

What a loss. It depresses me still to think of it!

73,
Sandy W5TVW

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Subject: Re: How old are 833s?
Message-ID: <9603260818.AA15450@alpha.luc.ac.be>

Greetings, Anchorites, from a wet and miserable Diepenbeek in N.E. Belgium!

Dube sez:

> I have two of 'em (833-A) sitting by my desk. The 1944 Amateur Radio
> Handbook gives a list price of \$76.50 for the (RCA) 833-A tube. Let's
> see----12 x 76.50 = \$918.00 in today's money. But I don't think they are
> available anywhere, even at that price.

833A 85 UK pounds each, Access/Visa OK, carriage extra, from:

Langrex Supplies Ltd,
1 Mayo Road,
Croydon,
Surrey,
CR0 2QP

tel. (+44) 181 684 1166
fax. (+44) 181 684 3056

Never dealt with them myself, usual disclaimers, they claim to specialise
in obsolete stuff.

Lessee, 85 UK pounds must be around \$140. Twice the price in 50 years
doesn't sound too bad 8-) Should be fine for QRP with say 24V on the
plate ;-)

Were these monsters equipped with sockets, or were they mounted in
suitable clips ?
73,

Duncan ON9CHU / G0UTY G-QRP 8117 dcadd@luc.ac.be

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: "Integration Area" <integrat@usr.com>
Subject: Re: How old are 833s?
Message-ID: <9602268278.AA827877563@robogate.usr.com>

Thanks to all who answered my question.

I have seen some sockets for 833s, but not many. They seem to be simple - slabs of ceramic with two holes for the base. I suppose the plate and grid caps are plain old clips.

On the other hand...

The later Navy model TBA transmitters (1 kW 4-26 MHz CW) have an interesting crank mechanism for holding the beasts. The sockets (two) are mounted on a moving platform. To install the 833s, you simply plug them in, then turn a crank. This raises the platform, sockets, and tubes up into the *fixed* plate and grid caps. Removing the tubes is just a matter of turning the crank the other way.

It seems to me that moving the caps instead of everything else would have made much more sense!

William Donzelli
integrat@usr.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Karan Lee Carruth <klccarru@tenet.edu>
Subject: Japanese EE-8
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960325213656.29287A-1000000@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>

The note about the German PRC-6 reminded me that I have a friend that has an EE-8 Field Phone in a leather case that was made in Japan. It has Japanese acceptance stamps and all parts were obviously made in Japan. Otherwise, it is identical to the American EE-8.

Does anyone have any idea of the history of these units? It was made after the war at a time when we were going to equipment with better environmental specifications. I can't imagine why they made them.

If there is anyplace where someone can enlighten me this must be the place!

Lenox Carruth, WA50VG

klccarru@tenet.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: MODSTEPH@ACS.EKU.EDU
Subject: Re: Johnson Challenger
Message-ID: <01I2RI4DXU2A001402@ACS.EKU.EDU>

The Challenger was rated at 120 watts INPUT 80- 10 CW, 85 watts INPUT on 6 meters CW; 70 watts phone INPUT 80-6, so figure it from there. I would expect it to be putting out somewhere in the neighborhood of 70 watts (80-10 CW) if all is working properly.

73, Al N5AIT
modsteph@acs.eku.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Kid Built Heathkits
Message-ID: <9603261901.AA00954@bock.ih.att.com>

I recently bought a Schober electronic organ that had been assembled by an electronics technician. Fortunately he was an exception -- followed the instructions and did neat work. Only problem now is that he did what I did when I built a Heathkit 25" color TV -- we both followed instructions and soldered in sockets for all the 3-legged sand grits, instead of just soldering the transistors straight into the board. After a decade those sockets get as flaky as the tube sockets were in my HQ-180C.

A longterm co-worker of mine used to work for DeVry school in Chicago. They did a lot of radio/TV correspondence courses, with kits for radios, scopes, etc. His job was to field phone calls, talk students thru the courses, and help them troubleshoot their kits. Sometimes he'd say "Ship us your built kit back and we'll fix it for you."

Oh boy -- scopes with PC boards soldered with a blowtorch and plumber's acid flux. You don't want to hear more. What's scary is some of those guys "graduated" and are probably now maintaining our cable TV systems, from what my neighbors with cable tell me.

I know the quality of my kit building work improved with age. I wouldn't buy back my 10th-grade DX-40 and R-100, but I'd challenge Hank to do a nicer job than I put into my grad-school TR-106. And the parenthood-era Heath GR-2000 TV needed no error fixes other than to swap a couple of misplaced transistors (well there, I was grateful for the sockets).

And I did suffer "kit fever" a few times in my life -- going thru Heath and Knight catalogs looking for *something* to build, just for the thrill of doing it. Maybe a good reason for tearing an old BA down to the bandswitch wafers is to enjoy the feel of putting it all together again,

and getting it RIGHT. Hank? 73, mike k aa9rg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: "Allan Fritsche" <fritsche@msn.com>
Subject: Loose and jittery Coils
Message-ID: <UPMAIL03.199603270153140524@msn.com>

Gang, thanks for the responses about how to keep coil forms from moving after alignment. I remember the rubber band thing from years ago, but it doesn't hardly work when all the adjustments are in IF type cans as in my HQ-170A. Dave Stinson came up with a good idea, about applying a drop of wax into the coils, which I could conceivably do. But again I would have to do precision bombing to get to the upper and lower coils of this radio and the lowers are very difficult to get to as alignment is all done from the top as in use the right tool and sneak thru the top to get to the bottom slug. Surely in this age someone makes a product that is slick, but then sets up somewhat firm, Anyone know?

BTW Dave, I've used birthday candles lately to do what you suggested on another radio, Whats your favorite color?. Mine was PINK. Works Great.

Another BTW, I just got a can of white Lithium Grease in a aerosol can from Auto Shack, works great on getting to the bearings of cleaned up Tuning Caps, etc. Cheap to.

Now, Lastly Ive resigned myself to the fact that I will never get good tracking on my Hammarlund, A real disappointment to me as Its my first, I will go with Hank Van Cleef's method of 10, 50, 90 percents of the dial.

Been fun trying to get it right per the manual.

Your Friend
Al
fritsche@msn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: KC5IJD@aol.com
Subject: Magic marker on cabinets
Message-ID: <960326150528_362480246@emout09.mail.aol.com>

I have a couple of pieces of Heath test equipment which I am in the process of restoring. They all have magic marker writing on the cabinets.

Any suggestions as to how to get this off without ruining the paint?

72

Joseph W Pinner
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: kc5ijd@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Magic marker on cabinets
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9603261309.A8669-0100000@netcom>

> I have a couple of pieces of Heath test equipment which I am in the
> process of restoring. They all have magic marker writing on the cabinets.
>
> Any suggestions as to how to get this off without ruining the paint?

Joe,
I've had some good luck with a product called 'goof-off' that is
available in the hardware stores around here. It generally works,
however, when the marker ink has been on for a long time, you will see a
faint light streak where that marker ink has been.

73

Paul WA60KQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: wb6zwc@ns.net
Subject: Re: Magic marker on cabinets
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960326141506.35977274@mail-1.ns.net>

At 02:07 PM 3/26/96 -0600, you wrote:
>I have a couple of pieces of Heath test equipment which I am in the
>process of restoring. They all have magic marker writing on the cabinets.
>
>Any suggestions as to how to get this off without ruining the paint?
>
>
>I have used completely denatured alcohol with some luck. Takes lots of

rubbing.

>

Richard wb6zwc@ns.net
Still looking for Bleeder
Resistors 7.5 K @ 160 Watts

& 575A's Hv rectifiers (toobs)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: klzat@dsport.com
Subject: Re: Magic marker on cabinets
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960326220812.7837A-100000@puff>

BA'ers

On Tue, 26 Mar 1996, paul Veltman wrote:

> > process of restoring. They all have magic marker writing on the cabinets.
> > Any suggestions as to how to get this off without ruining the paint?
> I've had some good luck with a product called 'goof-off' that is

I've had pretty good luck with the XYL's nail polish remover,
the one that comes in a baseball size jug and she hangs her nails
into the sponge inside. After its been used several times, the polish
remover isn't as strong and takes the magic marker off, doesn't
disturb the enamel.

jd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Christopher A. Bowne" <radiobwn@q.continuum.net>
Subject: My First BA - Scott SLRM
Message-ID: <199603260653.BAA21384@q.continuum.net>

The E. H. Scott SLRM was my first true short wave receiver. It was given to me by
my grandfather, Arthur J. Contant, of Ardsley, NY, on Thanksgiving, 1964. It was
originally purchased from the Scott showrooms in NYC by his brother, who was a
bachelor and lived with my mother's family, in 1945. Uncle Joe bought it as a
replacement for a pre-war Scott console set. It came with
a Hallicrafters speaker, the kind you usually see with an SX-28. My great uncle
was never really satisfied with the SLRM as a broadcast receiver, and after it
quit working in the late forties, he lost interest in it.

My grandfather gave it to me when I was 12, and just starting to show interest in radio. I learned alot fixing it. I still have it and it still works.

Does anyone out there have details on the Scott SLR series of receivers?
Did the SLRM have a Navy radio designator? If not, why not? Were Scotts strictly used for entertainment receivers, or were they used also for communications? Who was responsible for their outstanding mechanical design? Does SLR stand for "Super Low Radiation"?

73,

Chris Bowne, AJ1G
Stonington, CT
radiobwn@q.continuum.net

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: My First BA - Scott SLRM
Message-ID: <199603260839.CAA07592@zoom.bga.com>

As Christopher A. Bowne said

>

> My grandfather gave it to me when I was 12, and just starting to show interest in radio. I learned alot fixing it. I still have it and it still works.

>

> Does anyone out there have details on the Scott SLR series of receivers?
> Did the SLRM have a Navy radio designator? If not, why not? Were Scotts
> strictly used for entertainment receivers, or were they used also for
communications? Who was responsible for their outstanding mechanical design?
Does SLR stand for "Super Low Radiation"?

>

I think these sets have sheets in the early postwar Rider manuals.
There is nothing particularly exotic about them in general---they are large and fairly capable HF receivers, on a par with the Hallicrafters SX-28 and National HRO.

The "SLR" does stand for "super-low radiation." As I recall, between the antenna and the mixer is a 6K7 completely enclosed in a can with all the input circuits on top and output underneath. The rest of the set is shielded within an inch of its life as well, to keep the local oscillator and IF frequencies from leaking out.

This was built during WWII as a countermeasures receiver for shipboard use. They were used to listen carefully for underwater yachtsmen coming to the surface to yell to Der Grossadmiral (Doenitz) where they were and what they were doing, and where they would be looking for mid-ocean refueling and all kinds of other good stuff that somebody

might like to know if they want to find such yachts on the surface of the very large ocean. Reason for all the shielding was so as not to advertise to the yachtsmen the presence of electromagnetic ears anywhere nearby.

"SLR" and "BLR" are (or were) Navy designations for countermeasures receivers. I recall a Collins receiver (not HF) that was used for the purpose in the fifties, that had both designations.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Walt Novinger <waltn@hooked.net>
Subject: Re: My First BA - Scott SLRM
Message-ID: <3159FC4B.4FAD@hooked.net>

Henry van Cleef wrote:

> <<snip>>
> The "SLR" does stand for "super-low radiation." As I recall, between
> the antenna and the mixer is a 6K7 completely enclosed in a can with
> all the input circuits on top and output underneath. The rest of the
> set is shielded within an inch of its life as well, to keep the local
> oscillator and IF frequencies from leaking out. Actually, the 6k7's metal body
itself forms the radiation shield!
It's pretty funky looking, with the tube being visible between the metal boxes that form the shields for the input and output stages. My SLRH is the best BC receiver we have for listening to the old-time radio shows and big bands...played thru a 15" speaker in a bass-reflex enclosure, these rigs are _awsome_!

Walt

--

=====

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Walt Novinger | Real Radios Keep You Warm At Night! |
| Collector of hollowstate communications receivers and test equipment | |
| waltn@hooked.net | wnovinger@shl.com |
| | CI\$: 73348,2015 |
| http://www.hooked.net/users/waltn | |

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "William L. Fuqua III" <wlfluqu00@service1.uky.edu>

Subject: Need Manual for HP140A/1415 TDR
Message-ID: <199603261334.IAA19670@service1.cc.uky.edu>

I need a manual for a HP140A scope frame and a 1415A TDR plug in.
It all seems to work just now except may need calibration.
A copy of a manual would be just fine.

TNX es
73
Bill ko4ww

William L. Fuqua III P.E. E-mail WLFUQU00@POP.UKY.EDU Phone (606) 257-4155
Department of Physics and Astronomy CP-177 Chem. Phys. Bldg.
University of Kentucky , Lexington, Ky 40506-0055

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Integration Area" <integrat@usr.com>
Subject: Re: Non-Value Added Resellers
Message-ID: <9602268278.AA827862528@robogate.usr.com>

Maybe the subject ought to be "Vultures"...

Just look at some of the Wanted sections in regular ham classifieds -
you will see the same name. He will actually give you \$50 for a good
Western Electric 300B! Oh boy! Hold me back!

William Donzelli
integrat@usr.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Stanley Siegel <SIEGELS@turing.law.nyu.edu>
Subject: Non-Value Added Resellers -Reply
Message-ID: <s157b7e6.003@turing.law.nyu.edu>

The best strategy with non-value added resellers is simply not to buy
from them -- and I don't. We all look for bargains, of course, and if we
can find them, we get them. The problem is that if you simply must
have something, you end up paying too much.

I am not a seller, and I have resold only a few items that were duplicates,
or that came as part of a package deal when I didn't want everything.

And I -- like a lot of other non-commercial types -- always fully clean, calibrate and test anything I sell. I wish I could say the same of the items I've bought: some people's concept of "perfect" is that all the tubes are in the sockets and the pilot light still works.

73, Stan

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Jacqueline Herman <jherman@sierra.net>
Subject: Operating with some tubes removed
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960326093932.26910C-1000000@diamond.sierra.net>

Hello Gang from chilly Nevada (homesick for Hawaii...)
Since I only run CW on my DX-60B + HG-10 combo, I've removed the speech amp and modulator tubes from the 60 (to cut down on heat, and save them for possible future uses). Looking at the schematic I can't see that this would affect (effect?) the operation of the xmtr but just to be sure I thought I'd ask you folks what you think about this practice.

73,
Jeff NH6IL\7

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Operating with some tubes removed
Message-ID: <9603261905.AA00959@bock.ih.att.com>

Well, I ran my DX-40 thru my Novice months in exactly taht mode. Wasn't till my General came and I replaced those two tubes that I found one of them had a non-soldered filament lead (due, I think, to Heath's manual omitting the final "S" on the step where it should have been soldered).

Certainly didn't hurt the radio. However, other sets may use the screen modulator as a safety clamp tube on CW, so beyond the DX-40 (and 60?) please be sure you understand how your set operates first.
73, mike k aa9rg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: "James P. Rybak" <jrybak@mesa5.Mesa.Colorado.EDU>
Subject: Power Rating of RG-8X Coax
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.91.960326122455.107A@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>

Can anyone tell me the power handling capability of RG-8X coax. I've read several conflicting ratings. I'd especially like to hear how much power people actually have used that coax to deliver. I am getting an amplifier which delivers 600 watts on CW and currently have two antennas which are fed by RG-8X. I want to know if there is any danger of break-down.

While we're on the topic, how much power can BNC connectors handle on 50-ohm (RG-58) cable? (I need this info for a different project.)

Thanks.

Jim W0KSD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Al Klase <alklase@postoffice.ptd.net>
Subject: R-1451
Message-ID: <199603262154.QAA19769@ns1.ptd.net>

Does anyone have any info an R-1451A(V)3/WRL-6(V) Receiver, Radio, Manual? This is a '60's vintage solid-state (yeah, I know, but it's still a BA) MF/HF rx made for Bu-ships by Sylvania Electric Products, Mt. View, CA. Has 6x9 inch front panel with nixie readout and is about 18 inches deep. Architecturally it appears to be an SP-600 with a frequency counter connected to the local oscillator. Found one in good working order with some limited documentation. Any data would be appreciated.

Thanks & 73,

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: R-390A BFO setting
Message-ID: <332389@w5ddl.aara.org>

Ya lost me with all that "-1, USB, CW" stuff, but here is how I set the BFO knob.

xxx knob.

- warm up for quite a while
- tune in WWV with BFO off
- if you can, measure the IF output at 455 kcs, if you can't do that, place bandwidth to 1, and peak tune.
- turn BFO on, twist knob and zero beat, set knob to midpoint.

- while at it, when using WWV, you can calibrate your calibrator. WWV is not necessary to set the BFO, any AM station can do that for you. WWV important for setting calibrator.

73

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: aa4rm%amos.UUCP@mathcs.emory.edu (Marty)
Subject: Re: R390A Help Needed
Message-ID: <9603251330.AA04069@amos.YP.mystnite>

My sympathies on stripping the 'bristos.'

This is in the cart b4 the hoss dept., bu I've had success by heating 'em with a solder gun, dripping on diesel fuel & CRICK, voila! out they come.... er, usually.

MR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Lahlum Ross" <ross_lahlum@msmail.wes.mot.com>
Subject: R390A Lives!
Message-ID: <9603261658.AA20845@kay.wes.mot.com>

Thanks for the many helpful responses I received on how to remove a stripped Bristol screw. I finally decided to take the plunge & drill the sucker out. I got a brand-new tungsten drill bit, and, going very slowly, was able to go thru the head with the material spiraling off nicely (rather than chips flying all over the place). Finally the screw just fell out.

Now here's the amazing part. I removed the crystal oscillator subchassis & gave it a good visual & ohmmeter inspection - nothing appeared to be wrong. I gave the two big switch wafers a squirt of DeOxid, turned them a few times, set the switch position to 0, & popped the chassis back into the radio. When I powered it up, AM broadcast radio stations played! I tuned around, and, lo and behold! LOTS of AM broadcast stations! I tuned 160 meters, and, lo and behold! LOTS of hams! And so on... Life is good!

Next step - alignment - stay tuned...

73,
Ross KB9JJR
ross_lahlum@msmail.wes.mot.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu
Subject: removing magic marker ink
Message-ID: <SA39+v+6Kla@hrlban10.alhra.af.mil>

I have successfully removed magic marker ink from metal cabinets using xylol. Maybe I've just been lucky in what type of paint originally was used, but it's never softened or removed the paint (and it certainly does clean off the old grime). It's available in the paint section of most hardware stores. Try it in an inconspicuous place first. The usual safety precautions apply to this stuff; it's bad to breathe it, it's bad for your skin, and it is very flammable.

73, John Martin
jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Gable, Edward M" <emg@rfpo2.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: RME-4350A Manual - Who Wanted ?
Message-ID: <3157DCD0@smtpgate.rfc.comm.harris.com>

Sorry for the bandwidth. Someone wanted subject
manual - lost you. I have it. <emg@rfc.comm.harris.com>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: "Dick Dillman" <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Subject: Sayville Home Page
Message-ID: <68069.ddillman@igc.apc.org>

A new home page has been established regarding the former Telefunken transmitter site in Sayville, Long Island, NY. List members may remember my message a year or so ago about researching the site in the Sayville library and finding and exploring the location. It was used by the Navy (after they found it to be sending coded messages to Nauen, Germany, violating US neutrality before our entry into WWI) and later the FAA. Now a group I'm working with is trying to preserve the site.

The web page is a bit sparse at the moment but there are some good pictures of the site in the Telefunken days along with information about the history of the station. The page may be found at:

<http://www.asb.com/usr/w2g3zfj/>

Dick Dillman
WPE2VT N6VS ex-WA2BJK
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>
Collector of Heavy Metal:
Harleys, Willys and Radios Over 100lbs.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: RE: SSB adapter for R390A - got one?
Message-ID: <9603261839.AA00945@bock.ih.att.com>

Lucky you -- I have yet to see any SSB adapter at a swap fest.
You'd have no trouble selling that CE if you wanted to.

I think the CE is one of those that uses the Phasing (Hilbert transform)
method to select upper/lower.

"Exalted Product Detection" is sort of an oxymoron, but I think I can
guess what they're doing. Before they finally went to product detectors,
some rx makers used "exalted BFO" injection into the same old diode detector,
meaning a BFO signal 10x or stronger than the signal. This comes close to
the good audio you can get out of the typical weaker BFO injection that's
OK for CW but distorts on SSB unless you cut the RF gain.

A true product detector multiplies the BFO and SSB signals, and ideally
is a pentagrid mixer (6BE6), diode ring, or special IC.
Many product detectors, found in good places like the CV-157 and HQ-180,
are really just square-law "plate bend" detectors recycled from early '30s
broadcast radios (what goes around....), but they sound good if adjusted
for proper bias and given plenty of BFO -- hence the "exalted product detection."

BTW, a nice trick for AM or reduced-carrier SSB or DSB is "exalted carrier
detection"

whereby the RX boosts the carrier freq by 10x or so compared to the audio
sideband(s). This is sort of a chicken approach to Synchronous detection
and is one selectable mode of the CV-157, which actually separates the
carrier, boosts it, and injects it into the other side of its PD in place
of a local BFO.

I've surely misstated a few facts and opinions above, and await corrections.
73, mike k aa9rg

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

Subject: still more vacuum tubes in space
Message-ID: <SA39+Tn,Kla@hrlban10.alhra.af.mil>

FRANKK6NL@aol.com wrote: You know so much about it you might explain
to the gang how you intend to light the filaments and keep them lighted!!!

=====

Good question! I hope I don't actually have to do it. I suppose solar panels
might generate enough power to light a filament or two, provided it was near
enough to the sun, but way out where it's darker this would be a problem.
Does anyone have experience and info they can contribute?

73, John Martin
jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: Chuck Penson <penon@sci.mus.mn.us>
Subject: Re: still more vacuum tubes in space
Message-ID: <3158246C.1D95@sci.mus.mn.us>

jmartin@hrlban1.aircrew.asu.edu wrote:

>

> FRANKK6NL@aol.com wrote: You know so much about it you might explain
> to the gang how you intend to light the filaments and keep them lighted!!!

Wasn't Sputnik full of those little "peanut" tubes? Those don't take
much filament current, do they?

--

Chuck Penson
Education Division
Science Museum of Minnesota

penon@sci.mus.mn.us
612.221.4510 voice
612.224.5092 fax
<http://comped.sci.mus.mn.us>

Standard Disclaimer: The opinions expressed are etc. etc. ...

"Nothing is too wonderful to be true" -- Michael Faraday

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Sandy Blaize <70401.134@compuserve.com>
Subject: still more vacuum tubes in space
Message-ID: <960326193053_70401.134_IHD33-1@CompuServe.COM>

We need to ask the Russians! They used 'tubes' in space lots longer than

anyone else did! Wonder if there is a "BA" fan in the ex-USSR that is on the Internet?

73,

Sandy W5TVW

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996

From: Bill Sorsby <bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com>

Subject: Re: SX-28A Question

Message-ID: <199603260356.VAA28262@dlep1.itg.ti.com>

At 12:34 PM 3/24/96 -0600, Kevin Pease wrote:

>You could take a 5-25 pf trimmer and put a 65 pf capacitor in paralell
>with it. What do those capacitors look like ? Are the compresion or
>rotary ?

Apologies for not responding sooner but recently most of my BoatAnchors e-mail seems to be taking between 24 and 48 hours to reach me.

The capacitors look just like the ordinary garden variety ceramic rotary trimmer. I've seen a zillion just like it except that the capacitance range is a little bit offbeat.

I'll be recapping the old war beast soon, so I'm not planning on isolating each individual capacitor. I think I'll just leave those two ceramic rotary caps in T3 alone for the time being, though. If after recapping the rest of the SX-28A and solving whatever other little problems exist I still don't have adequate S-meter deflection, then I'll resort to using a parallel combination in T3.

BTW, Digi-Key really does ship same day if the order was received before 5 p.m. I ordered a bunch of caps on Friday about 4 p.m., had them delivered priority mail and they arrived today. ;-)

Regards,

Bill Sorsby, N5BU

bill.sorsby@dlep1.itg.ti.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996

From: "Richard L. Duell" <rduell@iac.net>

Subject: TEK Scopes

Message-ID: <199603270134.UAA22343@great-miami.iac.net>

Do any of you Tec afficianados collect any of the marketing materials? I just discovered a short form catalog from dated July 1959 that looks like it arrived in the mail today and a flyer announcing the new 504 and 503 models in 1960.

If anybody wants these, send me an e-mail - rduell@iac.net.

73, Rich - W5VDU

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: wb6zwc@ns.net
Subject: Re: Transmitting Capacitors Wanted
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960325202356.0da7d7a2@mail-1.ns.net>

At 06:21 PM 3/25/96 -0600, you wrote:

>
>
>Gang-
>
> I am looking for the following mica transmitting capacitors:
>
>300PF
>
>600PF
>
>900PF
>
>1200PF
>
>All at 2500 VDC or more. Thanks.
>
>
>
>73, Joel KB7RYU
>
>
>Joel----1-8003259465 C&H Sales co.---they have them

Richard wb6zwc@ns.net
Still looking for Bleeder
Resistors 7.5 K @ 160 Watts

& 575A's Hv rectifiers (toobs)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Vlad Dvorkin <dvorkin@pcs.mot.com>
Subject: Tubes in space
Message-ID: <199603262011.PAA10180@iron65>

Hi Sandy Blaize and fellow BAs,

I am from Russia. I left it 15 years ago.
Yes, Russians are still using a lot of tube equipment.
Some new Russian radars using low noise tubes for front end stages
of their ultra high dynamic range receivers.
Works better than solid state parts.

Vladimir Dvorkin
ex. UA3ACR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: lkayser@WorldLink.ca (Larry Kayser)
Subject: Tubes in Space
Message-ID: <9603262128.AA19409@beacon.WorldLink.ca>

Not sure what the problem is with the chap who can not cope with Tubes in
space, there are many many hundreds of tubes in space powered by solar
panels. The Travelling Wave Tubes, TWT's, in all the C Band transponders
have filaments in them.

If your concerned about power, remember that small nuclear reactors have
been flying in satellites for a long long time, by both sides. Canada well
remembers COSMOS 954 which dumped a bunch of radioactive debris over our
Barren Lands some years ago.

Whats the problems with keeping the filaments going?

Larry

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: lblaske@pclink.com (Lee Blaske)
Subject: Tubes in Space!
Message-ID: <v02130502ad7df8cb4e49@[204.72.134.62]>

I like this concept of unbottled fire bottles. In space, we could repair
our tubes!

Mercury vapor rectifiers, however, would be another story.

Lee AA0EF

Lee Blaske 73 de AA0EF

Keynote Music

lblaske@pclink.com

Deephaven, Minnesota

"When all think alike, then no-one is thinking." -Walter Lippman-

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996

From: "Benjamin D. Hall" <bdhall@ghgcorp.com>

Subject: TUBES IN SPACE! (not pigs in space, ha ha)

Message-ID: <315882D8.35EC@ghgcorp.com>

Hello everyone.

Never thought my coworkers comments would get such response. There has been too many letter for me to respond to them all, so I will do that here.

First, a little introduction about me. I work at Johnson Space Center in the Shuttle Systems Training Department. We train astronauts, flight controllers, and other personnel. One day, while sitting in my cube, a co-worker who knows I enjoy tube equipment asks me if tubes would work in the vacuum of space. Well, I did some research and found the following.

Theoretically, it should work. Space is a better vacuum than anything that can be produced on earth, by several orders of magnitude. (wish I hadn't left the figures on my desk!) The tubes will not have any problems cooling, because the heat will radiate off into space. In fact, the Shuttle has radiators to do the same thing. Besides delving back into my heat transfer text, I thought about the following: The envelope has a vacuum, and the heat makes it from the filament, thru the vacuum, to the envelope and then into the air. Therefore, the tube will have no problem with no envelope.

Some people mentioned possible contamination problems, which is a concern during ascent into space and when the tube innards are exposed to air. That would be a problem. Once upon orbit, the vacuum is fairly free of particles. However, the tubes would have to be shielded from the impact of micrometeorites, which could damage (actually destroy!) fragile tube components.

Others wondered about where the power would come from. Certain tubes have

very low filament power requirements. A quick flip thru of RCA Receiving Tube Manual shows many tubes that use less than .25 amps. Such current could be easily supplied by solar arrays (which can provide quite a bit of power actually, I think the ones on the Hubble Space Telescope can produce about a kilowatt?) and use battery power for less than ideal solar panel conditions.

So, it looks like it is feasible. Vlad mentioned the fact that Russia is still using vacuum tubes, which is indeed correct. Several people familiar with Mir indicate that there might be vacuum tubes on Mir right now. (I cannot confirm this.)

I just wonder if all the extra shielding required to protect the tubes would negate the cost savings of not having a vacuum.

Thanks and 73,
Ben

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=====
+ Benjamin D. Hall, Houston Texas +
+ BDHall@GHGCorp.com BHall@GP802.JSC.NASA.gov +
=====
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From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: David Metz <metzd@cfw.com>
Subject: Upside down radio/SX71
Message-ID: <9603270329.AA01648@milo.cfw.com>

Earlier this year I went to the Vienna Va hamfest and had a Hallicrafters SX71 follow me home. It was filthy so despite previous advice to this group not to do such, I sprayed it with degreaser and a hot water washer on the topside only. I then put it in the attic for the past month to dry out. Following the normal precautions of using a Variac and an ampmeter, I put the juice to it about a week ago and no smoke and decent sound out of the speaker. At this point the rx was upside down on the bench watching for smoke. Great me thinks, and I stole it too....WRONG! I turned it over and suddenly no sound! Turned it back upside down and good noise. Hmmm... Anyway I had a few things to do first so I tackled them. The cathode of V1, the 1st RF amp had 13 volts instead of '0' volts. Grounding the cathode with a jumper made the thing spring to life. Problem--- RF gain pot wouldn't take the cathode to bias resistance and zero volts. Fairly simple to fix and even had a reasonable replacement in the pot box. Now the fun begins.....

I hung the voltmeter on the B+ and while the sound disappeared, the B+ was rock solid rightside up or down. Hmmm. I tried replacing all tubes, one by one (must be heater cathode short) to no avail. Hmmm. How about the IF Cans? Took the outer cover off each one and found a bad resistor-- burned to a crisp! That's got to be it. Wrong..... still only works upside down. How

about the switches? Poked, probed, "deoxited", no joy. In the mean time ,the most likely guess of a bad solder joint was searched many times-- again no flaky joints. How can this be? Many expletives deleted at this point.

Running out of ideas, and into my third evening, I pulled the plug and turned it rightside up. Wait--did I hear something move--like inside? Only thing "inside" was the IF cans and they had already been inspected! Yes something was definitely moving-- about the bottom 2/3 of an IF slug! A serious detuning effect as you all can imagine. Talk about satisfaction finding that one. Now to get a strong magnet from work, extract it and epoxy it back together. I'm pretty sure that will work as I have repaired a bunch of slugs for the R-390 and got a true alignment by applying glue and then rolling it in a small square of paper on the table and then pushing it together again until the glue sets up.

I'm sorry for the bandwidth, but nobody I talked to came up with that obscure/weird suggestion so I hope it may save someone a few hours of cussing some other time down the road.

73's dave (R-390 non-A admirer--more tubes-32 HAS to be better)
metzd@cfw.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: USSAILIS@forum.phast.umass.edu
Subject: Re: Vac tubes in space
Message-ID: <01I2RV9UM4VM00MECM@rfd.oit.umass.edu>

Wonder how that reeely big thermionic emitter in the sky gets rid of its excess heat?? By radiation. The heat transfer varies as (temp)⁴.
Look up the Stephan-Boltzmann constant in any college general physics text.

Jim, W1EQ0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: lkayser@WorldLink.ca (Larry Kayser)
Subject: Vacuum Tubes in space
Message-ID: <9603261442.AA02675@beacon.WorldLink.ca>

>Date: Mon, 25 Mar 1996 09:56:28 -0800
>From: BDHall <bdhall@ghgcorp.com>
>To: boatanchors@theporch.com
>Subject: Vacuum Tubes in space

Back in the late 1970's I saw a picture of a UA satellite that had a multiple stage transmitter in it with Vacuum Tubes. Later I had a chance to spend some time with a UA who worked on their amateur satellites. Conversations were somewhat guarded in those days but we were discussing my problems of testing AMSAT flight hardware modules in a vacuum. He told me of having to do ALL the testing of some satellite system components in a full Vacuum, even the debug work of building the transmitters. This could only point to tubes that did not have a vacuum in the hardware.

Nothing definitive, but it certainly points to "open" tube design in some of the early UA spacecraft.

Larry
va3lk / wa3zia

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)
Subject: Re: Vacuum tubes in space
Message-ID: <9603262049.AA01840@texan.frco.com>

Ah, well, the flu's got me down, so might as well contribute to the shared ignorance on conditions in space. I don't think you'll find any vacuum tubes like we think of them that are open to space. They'd have to be open to atmosphere first, and that would probably cause oxidation and gas absorbtion and other bad stuff. The other thing is the space tether experiment, the one that generated 3 KV before the the Italian satellite broke loose. The tether is one conductor. The other is the ionosphere. There's enough ions up there at shuttle altitude to conduct power between the shuttle and the tethered satellite.

Now, if a chunk of rock was to knock the top off some of the tubes in your computer exposed to the hard vacuum of interstellar space while you were on your way to Alpha Centauri, you'd be all right until you encountered stellar wind as you approached the star.

At least, as far as I know ...

Oh, and the satellite hardware that had to be tested in vacuum might have required vacuum for insulation, like a vacuum capacitor. Ion current's probably negligible in that case.

Bill Hawkins

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 22:10:06 1996
From: launerb@crl.com (William H. Launer)

Subject: Re: Vacuum Tubes in Space

Message-ID: <v01520d03ad7e2327b5cc@[192.0.2.1]>

When I was in college (back in the dark ages), one of our EE Professors told us that tubes wouldn't need an envelope to work in space. Of course he didn't say how we'd get them there without atmospheric damage. Also, his theory assumed a "hard" vacuum (at least as good as that within a tubes envelope).

In addition to the natural particles (especially in our "low earth orbit" environment), there are contaminants from the spacecraft itself - both from thruster exhaust gasses and from "outgassing" of the spacecraft's materials. These various contaminants would soon degrade a tube's functioning (look how dust is attracted to your computer screen).

Power for tube heaters would be no real problem, we have used multi-kilowatt solar arrays and RTG's (Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators) on many spacecraft. Tube heaters would function properly in space (subject to the degradation mentioned above) - spacecraft powered with RTG's have successfully employed Nichrome heater elements to serve as "energy sinks", when the spacecraft electrical bus is lightly loaded. An RTG is a "constant energy" source, and the excess has to be removed from the nuclear source either electrically or by radiators, to prevent "meltdown". The physical configuration of an RTG usually precludes the use of a radiator alone to dissipate the excess heat.

Vacuum testing is primarily done to prove that the thermal rejection system is adequate - all the excess heat from equipment in a vacuum environment has to be removed either by conduction or radiation. Also, the dielectric strength of the atmosphere reaches a minimum at about 300,000(?) feet, and then rises again as you go higher. Vacuum testing is performed on electrical/electronic equipment that has to function during the ascent phase to ensure adequate electrical insulation, as well as thermal rejection ability. Obviously, you can't put an entire Shuttle or Space Station in a vacuum chamber, so their equipment is tested piecemeal; however, we did put each Gemini Spacecraft in a 40 ft. diameter chamber for thermal-vacuum testing. Some of the testing was performed with the astronauts inside the craft, for flight simulation.

73, Bill wb0cld

Bill Launer

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launerb@crl.com
wb0cld@wb0cld.ampr.org [44.46.66.25]
qrp-l #279          qrp arci #3551
```

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: "Denny Gilbertson" <gilbertson@ics.uwex.edu>
Subject: WTB SX-115, HT-32B, HT-33 and cables
Message-ID: <MAILQUEUE-101.960326085656.608@ics.uwex.edu>

Hi gang,

My brother Gary, WB9SDA wants to buy a clean to excellent condition Hallicrafters SX-115,
HT-32B, HT-33 station with cables etc.

He missed on the recent post for the SX-115. sdidn't get there in time. If anyone has all or part of the station they would like to sell, or knows of anyone who does, please let me know.

Denny Gilbertson, K9JCZ
gilbertson@ics.uwex.edu
608-262-3560

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 12:23:48 1996
From: ks0f@i1.net (MIKE SANDERS)
Subject: Re: You say Bristo, I say Bristol
Message-ID: <199603261647.KAA15874@mail1.i1.net>

 \succ

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>I've always heard these things called either Bristol or Spline keys/wrenches.
>Is Bristo a typo, or are they called this and other names too?
>
>-Lynn, N8AJ
```

Greetings, They are Bristol spline. Have been called everything including
nogoodsobs. They are Bristol spline. 73 de KS0F

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)
Subject: Re: You say Bristo, I say Bristol
Message-ID: <9603261856.AA01750@texan.frco.com>

In a message I haven't seen yet, Lynn, N8AJ, says:

>Is Bristo a typo, or are they called this and other names too?

Yes, it's a typo in the original Collins manuals, along with the word "alinement". Bristol and alignment are correct. No big deal, though. Gives you a little flavor of the hurry they were in to produce the sets. Speaking of the SR-71, someone said it's amazing what you can do with a few people in a hurry, rather than assembling teams and committees.

Bill Hawkins

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Mar 26 18:14:55 1996
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: You say Bristo, I say Bristol
Message-ID: <199603262236.QAA13479@zoom.bga.com>

As William Hawkins said

>

> In a message I haven't seen yet, Lynn, N8AJ, says:

>

> Yes, it's a typo in the original Collins manuals, along with the
> word "alinement". Bristol and alignment are correct. No big
> deal, though. Gives you a little flavor of the hurry they were
> in to produce the sets.

The "Bristol" may have been a type, just as I have seen "Cramoline" in Tektronix manuals. However, "aline" for "align" is a US Gov't style guide requirement, or at least was, in the fifties and sixties.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com
